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THE INFLUENCE OF ENGLISH ON THE PROFESSIONAL MECHANICAL ENGINEERING TERMINOLOGY IN SERBIAN

The author deals with the influence of the English language on the scientific terminology of mechanical engineering in Serbian as a consequence of the contact between these two languages. The English language is today the dominant giving language in almost every aspect of life, including engineering sciences, that is, mechanical engineering, where it has taken the supremacy from German as the traditional specialized language of engineering, causing the ever-growing occurrence of anglicisms which fill out the new empty slots in the scientific vocabulary. The author further reviews the theory of languages in contact and presents the most important foreign and domestic scientists in this field and their works. In the next section of the paper, the linguistic analysis is given, conducted on the corpus of nouns and noun phrases on the phonological-orthographic, morphological and lexical level. As far as the phonological-orthographic level is concerned, an increase in number of final consonant clusters in Serbian is observed, as well as the elimination of redundant graphemes. On the morphological level, it is significant to point out the importation of some bounded morphemes from English to Serbian, which occurs generally rarely in morphological adaptation, and the allocation of the grammatical gender to English nouns which have the natural neutral gender. Finally, the analysis on the lexical level, which is the most important for this research, shows that the largest number of loanwords in the language of mechanical engineering are hybrid loans.

Key Words: *languages in contact, contact linguistics, mechanical engineering, language for specific purposes.*